

A New *Melanoplus* from New Jersey.

BY JAMES A. G. REHN.

Several times during the past few years while collecting in the pine barren region of New Jersey, the author has taken specimens of a large form of the genus *Melanoplus* which differed considerably from any species known to him. Through the kindness of Prof. A. P. Morse, specimens of this have been compared with the series of the genus in the Scudder collection and nothing of similar character found.

From the localities in which the new species has been taken it would appear that dry scrubby pine land is preferred. It is, apparently, a rather abundant species, as in a few minutes work at the type locality a series of about a dozen was taken.

I take pleasure in dedicating this striking species to my friend Mr. Witmer Stone of the Academy of Natural Sciences. Mr. Stone has made a study of the fauna and flora of the pine barren region, and assisted in collecting all the specimens of this species taken.

Melanoplus stonei n. sp.

Types: ♂ and ♀. Between Harris and White Horse, Burlington Co., New Jersey. August 13, 1902. Collected by Witmer Stone and J. A. G. Rehn. (Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila.)

A member of the *packardii* group and related to *M. packardii* and *fedus*, but distinguished by the smaller size, more compressed and excavated vertex and fastigium, the narrower frontal costa (which also has a distinct stricture below the junction with the fastigium), the smaller furcula, the greater interval between the mesosternal lobes in both sexes, and in the rich and striking coloration.

♂ Size medium; form rather slender. Head with the occiput gently rounded; vertex rather strongly constricted, and with the blunt depressed fastigium very distinctly sulcate; frontal costa sub equal, slightly and very gradually expanding inferiorly, distinctly compressed at its junction with the fastigium, moderately sulcate at and below the ocellus; eyes reniform, slightly longer than the infra-ocular portion of the genæ; antennæ equal to the head and pronotum in length. Pronotum slightly slightly expanded on the metazona; anterior margin truncate; posterior margin obtuse-angulate with the angle broadly rounded; prozona slightly

longer than the metazona, the latter strongly punctate on the lateral lobes; median carina obsolete on the prozona, distinct but low on the metazona; lateral lobes with the lower margin very obtusely angulate; transverse sulci very distinct; dorsal aspect passing into the lateral lobes without carinæ, but with a distinct shoulder. Tegmina rather narrow, subequal, slightly surpassing the apex of the abdomen, apex rounded. Prosternal spine erect, conical, the apex slightly antrorse. Interval between the mesosternal lobes sub-quadrate, expanding; interval between the metasternal lobes longitudinal, about four times as long as broad. Supra-anal plate with distinct median and lateral sulci; furcula extremely short and strongly divergent; cerci short, with a distinct median constriction, apical portion with the lateral face excavated and deflected internally, apical margin sub-rotundate with a slight inferior shoulder; subgenital plate moderately compressed, the lateral margins very slightly arcuate, the apex posterior to the margin of the plate and developed as a distinct tubercle. Anterior and median femora tumid, the anterior distinctly curved; posterior femora rather slender, but with the genicular regions rather broad.

♀ Size rather large; form rather heavy and robust. Head with the occiput distinctly elevated above the pronotum, rounded; vertex and fastigium rather broad, very shallowly sulcate; frontal costa rather broad, subequal in width, reaching to the clypeus, slightly sulcate at and below the ocellus; eyes sub reniform, the anterior margin almost straight, but little shorter than the infra-ocular portion of the genæ; antennæ about equal to the head and pronotum in length. Pronotum much as in the male, but the whole structure is more inflated, and the metazona is very slightly shorter than the prozona. Tegmina reaching to, but not exceeding, the valves of the ovipositor. Prosternal spine erect, short, blunt, slightly compressed transversely. Interval between the mesosternal lobes quadrate, slightly longitudinal; interval between the metasternal lobes longitudinal, expanded anteriorly and laterally confined by the curved metasternal lobes. Anterior and median femora not inflated as in the male, rather slender, slightly arcuate; posterior femora a little more robust than the same parts in the male.

General color above bistre, below gamboge yellow. Head mottled bistre and wood brown, the distinct, rather narrow, post-ocular streak shining black; occiput with a dark median area margined laterally by obscure bars of a lighter tint; antennæ dull gamboge yellow. Pronotum above with a broad median longitudinal bar of vandyke brown, somewhat mixed with blackish laterally; lateral margins of the disk of the pronotum with a rather distinct bar of wood brown, which becomes obsolete posteriorly; lateral lobes with the post-ocular streak broad and shining black, occupying slightly more than the superior half of the lobe, the inferior margin of the streak supplied with two ovate white blotches, which are strongly contrasted against the shining black bar; remainder of the lateral lobes broccoli brown, slightly mixed inferiorly with wood

brown. Tegmina bistre, with a few sub-obsolete spots of ecru drab. Pleuræ blackish brown except the metathoracic episternum, which bears a prominent diagonal bar of yellowish-white. Abdomen above tessellate with blackish-brown on a dull ochraceous ground. Anterior and median limbs drab, more or less irregularly infuscate with a darker brown; posterior femora drab above and on the lateral face, the lower and internal aspect gamboge yellow, external face with diagonal blackish bars, which cross the superior face and are distinct and regular on the internal surface,* genicular arch blackish, with a patch of ecru drab below; posterior tibiæ pale claret brown, the spines black except at the immediate base.

MEASUREMENTS.

	♂	♀
Length of body	22.5 mm.	29. mm.
Length of pronotum	5.5 "	9. "
Length of tegmina	17. "	20. "
Length of anterior femora . . .	4.8 "	4.1 "
Length of posterior femora . . .	12.2 "	14.2 "
Length of posterior tibiæ	10. "	12.2 "

Specimens have been examined from only the type locality and Atsion, Burlington Co., New Jersey. But one specimen was taken at the latter locality, that on September 2, 1902.

But little variation is exhibited by the series examined, the differences which do exist being wholly in the intensity of the coloration and the separate or confluent character of the bars on the outer face of the posterior femora (*vide supra*).

A Handsome Species of *Tachysphex* from Arizona. (Hymenoptera.)

BY HENRY L. VIERECK.

Tachysphex propinquus n. sp.

This beautiful wasp is related to *T. ashmeadii* Fox, from which it is easily separated by the very acute pygidial area, the more elaborate silvery ornamentation, color, etc.

* In some specimens these bars are confluent and inseparable on the external face, but in all the specimens examined the superior and internal faces are distinctly barred. The female type belongs to the form with the form with the external bars confluent.